

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 3, 6, 8, 10 to 14, 20 and 26 are canceled without prejudice, and therefore claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 15 to 19 and 21 to 25 are now pending.

With respect to paragraph four (4) of the Office Action, Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 4, 5, 7, 9 and 19 to 26.

With respect to claims 20 and 26, these claims were objected to as only reciting the features of their respective based claims 4 and 7. Accordingly, claims 20 and 26 are canceled. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objections be withdrawn.

With respect to paragraph three (3), claims 1 to 3, 6, 8 and 10 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Ying, U.S. Patent No. 5,019,989, in view of Paratore et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,666, 358.

While the rejections may not be agreed with, to facilitate matters, these claims are being canceled without prejudice, since they will be pursued in a continuation application

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 15 to 19 and 21 to 25 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the objections and rejections have been obviated, and that claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 15 to 19 and 21 to 25 are allowed. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objections and rejections be withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

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Respectfully submitted,
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